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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 3673
Atty. Docket: 8266-1250
Applicants: Soltani et al.
Invention: AIR FLUIDIZED BLADDERS FOR
A BED
Serial No.: 10/780,086
Filed: February 17, 2004
Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in
an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on July 22, 2004
Norman J. Hedges
Norman J. Hedges

Dated: July 22, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This statement is filed in the application identified above pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Applicant calls attention to the art references within the knowledge of applicant and its attorney which are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. No representation is intended that a complete search has been made or that no better art references are available. The filing of this statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 1.56(b).

REMARKS

Copies of cited U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent application publications are not provided in accordance to the waiver of the requirements under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(i) as announced in the August 5, 2003 *Official Gazette*. Copies of foreign patent references EP 0 194 868, WO 95/31920, WO 96/33641, and 99/21457 were previously cited to and submitted to the Office in prior application 09/791,436, filed on February 23, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,694,555,

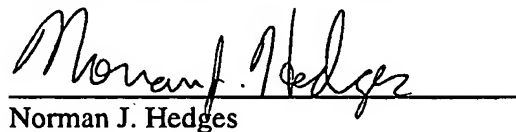
which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Therefore, copies of these cited patents and publications are not being supplied with this Information Disclosure Statement.

None of the art cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application. It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over these references.

Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223. An extra copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP


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555676_1.DOC

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| FORM PTO-1449 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY DOCKET NO. 8266-1250 | SERIAL NO. 10780,086 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (See several sheets if necessary) | | APPLICANT Soltani et al. | |
| | | FILING DATE February 17, 2004 | GROUP 3673 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------|------------------------------|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
| R.S. | AA | 4,045,830 | Sep. 6, 1977 | Loeb et al. | 5 | 81.17 | |
| | AB | 4,425,676 | Jan. 17, 1984 | Crane | 5 | 689 | |
| | AC | 4,481,686 | Nov. 13, 1984 | Lacoste | 5 | 689 | |
| | AD | 4,483,029 | Nov. 20, 1984 | Paul | 5 | 689 | |
| | AE | 4,564,965 | Jan. 21, 1986 | Goodwin | 5 | 689 | |
| | AF | 4,599,755 | Jul. 15, 1986 | Tominaga | 5 | 689 | |
| | AG | 4,609,854 | Sep. 2, 1986 | Yamamoto et al. | 318 | 471 | |
| | AH | 4,637,083 | Jan. 20, 1987 | Goodwin | 5 | 689 | |
| | AI | 4,638,519 | Jan. 27, 1987 | Hess | 5 | 713 | |
| | AJ | 4,644,597 | Feb. 24, 1987 | Walker | 5 | 711 | |
| R.S. | AK | 4,672,699 | Jun. 16, 1987 | Goodwin | 5 | 430 | |

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| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| R.S. | AL | EP 0 194 868 A2 | Sep. 17, 1986 | EPO | | | | |
| R.S. | AM | WO 95/31920 | Nov. 30, 1995 | PCT | | | | |
| R.S. | AN | WO 96/33641 | Oct. 31, 1996 | PCT | | | | |
| R.S. | AO | WO 99/21457 | May 6, 1999 | WIPO | | | | |
| | AP | | | | | | | |
| | AQ | | | | | | | |

| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | |
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| EXAMINER | <i>Robert L. Soltani</i> | DATE CONSIDERED | <i>May 13, 2005</i> |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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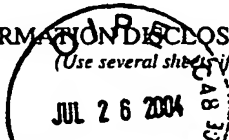
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------|----------|------------------------------|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
| R.S. | BA | 4,694,521 | Sep. 22, 1987 | Tominaga | 5 | 689 | |
| | BB | 4,768,250 | Sep. 6, 1988 | Kato | 5 | 689 | |
| | BC | 4,776,050 | Oct. 11, 1988 | Goodwin | 5 | 689 | |
| | BD | 4,803,744 | Feb. 14, 1989 | Peck et al. | 5 | 713 | |
| | BE | 4,879,777 | Nov. 14, 1989 | Goodwin | 5 | 689 | |
| | BF | 4,914,760 | Apr. 10, 1990 | Hargest et al. | 5 | 689 | |
| | BG | 4,942,635 | Jul. 24, 1990 | Hargest et al. | 5 | 689 | |
| | BH | 4,951,335 | Aug. 28, 1990 | Eddy | 5 | 709 | |
| | BI | 4,967,431 | Nov. 6, 1990 | Hargest et al. | 5 | 689 | |
| | BJ | 4,998,310 | Mar. 12, 1991 | Olson | 5 | 710 | |
| R.S. | BK | 5,005,240 | Apr. 9, 1991 | Vrzalik | 5 | 713 | |

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| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
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| | BL | | | | | | | |
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| | BN | | | | | | | |
| | BO | | | | | | | |
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| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | |
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| EXAMINER <i>Robert E. Soltani</i> | DATE CONSIDERED <i>May 13, 2005</i> |
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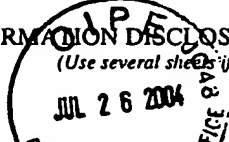
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| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
| R.S. | CA | 5,008,965 | Apr. 23, 1991 | Vrzalik | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CB | 5,009,318 | Apr. 23, 1991 | Lepinoy | 206 | 524.8 | |
| | CC | 5,016,304 | May 21, 1991 | Ryhiner | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CD | 5,020,176 | Jun. 4, 1991 | Dotson | 5 | 710 | |
| | CE | 5,029,352 | Jul. 9, 1991 | Hargest et al. | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CF | 5,036,559 | Aug. 6, 1991 | Hargest | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CG | 5,105,487 | Apr. 21, 1992 | Hakamiun et al. | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CH | 5,168,591 | Dec. 8, 1992 | Hakamiun et al. | 5 | 6.89 | |
| | CI | 5,267,364 | Dec. 7, 1993 | Volk | 5 | 713 | |
| | CJ | 5,325,551 | Jul. 5, 1994 | Tappel et al. | 5 | 709 | |
| R.S. | CK | 5,367,728 | Nov. 29, 1994 | Chang | 5 | 6.89 | |

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| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
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| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | |
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| EXAMINER <i>Robert E. Santos</i> | DATE CONSIDERED <i>May 13, 2005</i> |
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> | | APPLICANT Soltani et al. | |
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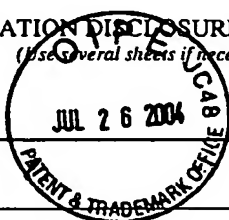
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
| R.S. | DA | 5,388,291 | Feb. 14, 1995 | Roux | 5 | 689 | |
| | DB | 5,402,542 | Apr. 4, 1995 | Viard | 5 | 421 | |
| | DC | 5,539,943 | Jul. 30, 1996 | Romano | 5 | 655.5 | |
| | DD | 5,623,736 | Apr. 29, 1997 | Soltani et al. | 5 | 689 | |
| | DE | 5,647,079 | Jul. 15, 1997 | Hakamiun et al. | 5 | 714X | |
| | DF | 5,655,239 | Aug. 12, 1997 | Caparon et al. | 5 | 713 | |
| | DG | 5,682,827 | Nov. 4, 1997 | Nagato et al. | 110 | 244 | |
| | DH | 5,699,570 | Dec. 23, 1997 | Wilkinson et al. | 5 | 713 | |
| | DI | 5,740,573 | Apr. 21, 1998 | Boyd | 5 | 711 | |
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| R.S. | DK | 5,781,943 | Jul. 21, 1998 | Moening et al. | 5 | 81.1C | |

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| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
| R.S. | EA | 5,815,865 | Oct. 6, 1998 | Washburn et al. | 5 | 713 | |
| | EB | 5,855,207 | Jan. 5, 1999 | Moening et al. | 128 | 845 | |
| | EC | 5,966,763 | Oct. 19, 1999 | Thomas et al. | 5 | 715 | |
| | ED | 6,006,383 | Dec. 28, 1999 | Pile et al. | 5 | 706 | |
| | EE | 6,016,581 | Jan. 25, 2000 | Miki | 5 | 689 | |
| | EF | 6,131,214 | Oct. 17, 2000 | Moening et al. | 5 | 702X | |
| | EG | 6,192,537 | Feb. 27, 2001 | Miki | 5 | 689 | |
| | EH | 6,351,862 | Mar. 5, 2002 | Henley et al. | 5 | 689X | |
| R.S. | EI | 2002/0083529 | Jul. 4, 2002 | Henley et al. | 5 | 689 | |
| | EJ | | | | | | |
| | EK | | | | | | |

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| | EL | | | | | | |
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